

Five Frequently Asked Questions for New Texas Pharmacists

(1) Why was my license issued for only 30 days?

The Texas State Board of Pharmacy is following the licensing procedure outlined in board rules.

Excerpt from **RULE §283.9 Fee Requirements for Licensure by Examination, Score Transfer and Reciprocity**

(e) Once an applicant has successfully completed all requirements of licensure, the applicant will be notified of licensure as a pharmacist and of his or her pharmacist license number and the following is applicable.

(1) The notice letter shall serve as authorization for the person to practice pharmacy in Texas for a period of 30 days from the date of the notice letter.

(2) The applicant shall complete a pharmacist license application and pay one pharmacist licensee fee as specified in §295.5 of this title (relating to Pharmacist License or Renewal Fees).

(3) The provisions of §295.7 of this title (relating to Pharmacist License Renewal) apply to the timely receipt of an application and licensure fee.

(4) If application and payment of the pharmacist license fee are not received by the board within **30 days** from the date of the notice letter, the person's license to practice pharmacy shall expire. A person may not practice pharmacy with an expired license. The license may be renewed according to the following schedule.

(A) If the notice letter has been expired for **90 days or less**, the person may become licensed by making application and paying to the board one license fee and a fee that is one-half of the examination fee for the license.

(B) If the notice letter has been expired for **more than 90 days but less than one year**, the person may become licensed by making application and paying to the board all unpaid renewal fees and a fee that is equal to the examination fee for the license.

(C) If the notice letter has been **expired for one year or more**, the person shall apply for a new license.

(2) Where do I renew my license?

You can access your online account with the Texas State Board of Pharmacy (TSBP) from the following link:

<http://www.hpc.state.tx.us/message.php>

Your TSBP online account is the same account you set up when applying for licensure. When logged into your online account, click on your license number link on the right side of the main menu for access to the initial renewal option. If you do not see your license number on the right side, you can link your license to your account by using the add license link from the left side of the main menu. You are required to renew your license in the first 30 days or your status will change to Delinquent and additional fees will be necessary to renew the license. Any changes to license information will be updated on the TSBP website the following business day in the License and Registration Verifications section.

(3) Am I required to obtain CE hours to renew my license?

Based on Rule 295.8 all pharmacists licensed in Texas are exempt from the continuing education requirements during their initial license period. The initial license period is defined in Rule 295.8 as the time period between the date of issuance of a pharmacist's license and the next expiration date following the initial 30 day expiration date.

(4) When will I receive my renewal certificate, pocket card, and large wall certificate?

A renewal certificate and pocket card will be mailed to the home address within 5 business days following the renewal of the license. If you are working in a Texas pharmacy, the renewal certificate should be posted in the primary place of employment with the large wall certificate, which will be mailed within 12 weeks from the date of licensure. The pocket card provides proof of licensure for any places of employment, other than the primary place of employment. Please maintain a current home address with the board so any documents mailed to you will be received.

(5) Why is the new license expiration date not in two years?

During the first 30 days of licensure, a pharmacist must renew the license to extend the expiration date to one in the future in the birth month of the pharmacist. The initial renewal fee is prorated, based on the time period until the next expiration date, which depends on the date of licensure and the birth month of the pharmacist. Below is an example of a pharmacist licensed in June 2013 with a birth month of April:

1. A pharmacist licensed is issued on June 14, 2013.
2. The license is issued with an expiration date of July 14, 2013 (30 days).
3. The pharmacist submits an initial renewal application online and pays a prorated fee. The CE requirement has been met based on Rule 295.8.
4. The new expiration date following the initial renewal is April 30, 2015.
5. The pharmacist must renew the license again by the end of April 2015.
6. Before April 30, 2015 the pharmacist submits a renewal application online and pays a two-year fee. The CE requirement has been met based on Rule 295.8.
7. The new expiration date following the renewal is April 30, 2017. To remain Active, the CE requirements must be completed and reported on the April 2017 renewal application.
8. All future renewals will be due every two years in April (birth month).

Other questions? Most questions can be answered with information provided on the TSBP website at texaspharmacyboard.org. Click on the link for Pharmacists from the red and gray bar across the top of the home page for a link to more information, including a Forms and Procedure section.